

The World Finance and Trade

Trading Largely of a Professional Character.

NOTABLE LACK OF BUYING

Discussion Converged on Topics Two Weeks Old.

A FEW LIQUIDATING ORDERS

Little Alteration in the Money Market Affairs—London's Influence Was Again Negligible.

Special Dispatch to The Star.
NEW YORK, March 19.—When all quarters of the stock market follow a common direction, it may ordinarily be assumed that speculative sentiment has hit upon some novel and important influence upon which operations are predicated. As a matter of fact, discussion in Wall street circles this morning converged simply upon the long and more or less dreary category of buying with which investors have been absorbed for several weeks past.

To these there was, to be sure, added today the reports of the serious indisposition of the capitalist dominant in point of ownership, although not of direction, in the Standard Oil Company. As a matter of fact, the gentleman in question withdrew from all active participation in business affairs several years ago, and without regard to his present physical condition, it is palpably absurd to suppose the security market is or will be threatened with a precipitate liquidation of the securities in which he may be interested.

Hostilities to Corporations.
For the rest, the chief subjects discussed, outside of market circumstances of themselves, were the many manifestations of hostility to corporation interests, the approaching crisis in the labor situation in the coal regions and the unsatisfactory state of the money market.

Within the physical limits of the stock exchange even these subjects were subordinate in interest to the absolute lack of buying power which was revealed in the dealings throughout the greater part of the business session. Trading was largely of a professional character, and the technical circumstances noted appeared strongly to the class of operators whose market dealings furnished the bulk of the day's dealings.

London's Negative Tone.
The London market had a negative tone, wavering between a slight relaxation in the money market on the one hand and the obvious progress of the Moroccan negotiations on the other. The market's sagging tendency was in evidence promptly at the outset of the dealings, and was manifested with few interruptions during the greater part of the day.

Apart, however, from the general circumstances sufficiently similar to persons having the smallest acquaintance with Wall street affairs, it did not appear that the movements in one stock or another could be attributed to influences specifically affecting their basic properties.

Some of the United States stocks were under fairly constant pressure, although, naturally, many other industrial stocks showed much more extensive declines. Maximum losses in this quarter were greatest in Colorado Fuel and Iron, National Lead, American Smelting, and Amalgamated Copper. Some of the volume of the business over last week's dealings was recorded, but nevertheless the market could not be described as active, and considering the extent of the heavy sales being favorable for the heavy sales, it was not surprising that they occurred upon comparatively limited transactions.

New York Stock Market.

Furnished by W. B. Hibbs & Co., bankers and brokers, 1419 F street, members New York stock exchange, Washington stock exchange and Chicago board of trade.

	Open	High	Low	Close
Amalgamated Copper	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
Am. Car & Foundry	41 1/2	42 1/2	41 1/2	42 1/2
Am. Steel Foundry	67 1/2	68 1/2	67 1/2	68 1/2
American Smelting	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
American Sugar	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
American Tobacco	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
Atchafalaya	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
Atchafalaya	103 1/2	104 1/2	103 1/2	104 1/2
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Chicago, March 19.—The wheat market was firm and active today at the opening.

The Liverpool cables were reported higher and there was free selling by prominent commission houses, chiefly because of reports of snow in the west and southwest, which it is expected will greatly benefit the crop.

May opened 1/4 higher at 79 to 79 1/2, advanced to 79 1/2 to 79 3/4, declined to 78 1/2, and closed at 78 1/2.

May corn, on active demand by commission houses, firmed up to 44 1/4 to 44 1/2.

Light offerings advanced May oats to 29 1/2 to 29 3/4.

May provisions opened firm; pork at 16 1/2 to 16 3/4, lard at 8 1/2 to 8 3/4.

During the last half of the session the market was quiet, with a few good demands by commission houses. There was considerable selling of the July option by which was constructed as being favorable for the new crop. This option closed weak and 1/4 lower at 78. The May option was unchanged at 78 1/2.

The corn market remained firm all day on good buying by commission houses. The highest point of the May option was reached at 44 1/2. The close was firm with May up 1/4 to 44 1/4.

Corn: Wheat—May, 78 1/2; July, 78. Corn—May, 44 1/2; July, 44 1/4 to 44 1/2. Oats—May, 29 1/2; July, 29 1/4 to 29 1/2. Rye—May, 10 1/2; July, 10 1/4 to 10 1/2. Barley—May, 8 1/2; July, 8 1/4 to 8 1/2.

Grain and Provision Summary.
CHICAGO, March 19.—Grain: Wheat—May, 78 1/2; July, 78. Corn—May, 44 1/2; July, 44 1/4 to 44 1/2. Oats—May, 29 1/2; July, 29 1/4 to 29 1/2. Rye—May, 10 1/2; July, 10 1/4 to 10 1/2. Barley—May, 8 1/2; July, 8 1/4 to 8 1/2.

Liverpool Grain Prices.
LIVERPOOL, March 19.—Wheat—Spot, nominal; futures, steady. March, nominal; May, 68 1/4; July, 68 1/4. Corn—Spot, nominal; futures, steady. March, nominal; May, 48 1/4; July, 48 1/4. Oats—Spot, nominal; futures, steady. March, nominal; May, 48 1/4; July, 48 1/4.

LOCAL FINANCIAL NEWS.

It might have been a sensational move and a doubt would have been cast on any other place than the local stock exchange when a broker today calmly bid 20 points on the last quoted bid for Columbia Bank and bid 300 for the stock. One circumstance lessened its unusual character and that was the same bid has been made for this stock in recent days, and also the further fact that such extraordinary jumps in the figures are not so uncommon in the local market.

None of the Columbia Bank stock was offered for sale at any price. In addition the broker who made the bid there was also an inquiry from another broker as to whether there was any stock for sale, and especially a large block of it. In reply to the question the latter said that he would not bid the stock, but if there was any quantity offered and the offer was kept open he would get busy and see what he could do.

There is no call perhaps for an explanation as to the cause of this apparent demand for the stock, as the bid was not the entire bank stock list, with some exceptions, of course, represent rather the condition of securities strongly held for investment purposes than the real market. It is a pretty safe thing to make most any sort of a bid for this class of stocks without the least danger of accumulating any great quantity.

In connection with the Columbia Bank stock, however, there seems to be an impression that there is considerable doubt as to whether there is any stock for sale, and sometimes it is thought that these moves at the meeting of the stock exchange may be premonitory symptoms of future events.

An advance of a point and a half in the bid for the stock of the Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company was the result of a result was the offering of twenty-five shares for 88 and 100 shares for 105. The bid for the stock of the Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company was the result of a result was the offering of twenty-five shares for 88 and 100 shares for 105.

There was still a supply on hand at 60, but the demand did not seem to be very pressing and the last few days the price was at 60, and that was for a quotation of twenty-five shares.

The volume of the trading in Lanston represented the largest proportion of the activity of the day, but that does not mean much, as the business of the day was in the spirit which prevails in the New York market, where dullness reigns.

The figures obtained for Lanston were slight fractional advances about 15, with an option at 15 1/2. At the close the bid and the asking prices were separated by only an eighth of a point.

Greene Copper was also one of the large traders of the day, and the scale of prices showed somewhat of a decline from the level that has been maintained.

At the meeting in this city of the committee on bank legislation of the American Bankers' Association a clean money bill has been introduced which provides that banks may issue bills for exchange, unit for circulation, by registered mail without expense. The committee also favors the issue of \$5 gold bills as a means of furnishing a sufficient amount of small bills to the country.

Today's Government Receipts.
National bank notes received today for redemption, \$1,104,453; government receipts from internal revenue, \$1,208,662; customs, \$1,020,388; miscellaneous, \$148,897; expenditures, \$2,100,000.

Washington Stock Exchange.
Sales—Regular call, 12 o'clock noon, Washington Railway and Electric, \$1,000 at 87 1/2; Capital Traction, 1 at 140 1/2.

Washington Railway and Electric, 15 at 90 1/2; Capital Traction, 1 at 140 1/2; Washington Railway and Electric, 15 at 90 1/2; Capital Traction, 1 at 140 1/2.

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BILLS AND BEARS

Special Dispatch to The Star.
NEW YORK, March 19.—While it is still believed in speculation circles that the stock market will continue quiet for the next two weeks, the sentiment this morning was somewhat more cheerful than it was last week. The fact that the market later on, there is practically universal confidence. This opinion is held, not only here in town, but by large operators who are in the south and at various other winter resorts and who have been heard from within the last few days. The opinion is becoming more general that there will not be an anthracite strike and that as has been believed for some time, a bituminous strike will be averted without special difficulty.

The opinion is also expressed by men who are in a position to know accurately that the recent advance in money rates will not long continue and have been due largely to artificial conditions.

The market is expected to continue to show improvement. He says that he sees no indication of a falling off in the consumption of iron, but, on the other hand, the price for the consumption to continue at practically the same high rate that has prevailed for many months.

He believes, however, that as the furnaces have been running practically full for a long time, it will be necessary to shut some of them down soon for repairs, and the calls for iron will be reduced.

The bank of central has entered into an arrangement with the government of the province of Ontario, Canada, by which the Ontario government will float its first provincial bonds, which amounts to a loan of \$2,000,000. The bonds are to bear 3 1/2 per cent interest, be dated May 15, 1906, and will be due in 1916. Of the total issue, \$1,000,000 will be offered in England at 98 1/2, and \$1,000,000 will be offered in Canada.

United States Judge Waddell, at Norfolk, has advised that the Bay Shore railroad, which during ten years has been in a receiver's hands, shall be sold by public auction, the terms of sale being a deposit of \$50,000 cash at the time of sale, and the remainder to be paid over within thirty days.

The state of Maryland, which owns 5,500 shares of the stock of the Washington branch of the Baltimore and Ohio, has refused an offer from the latter for the stock at 100 cents per share, and has instead offered to sell the stock at 100 cents per share, and has instead offered to sell the stock at 100 cents per share.

This price the state insists is not too high when it is recalled that the earnings for the last year were about 27 per cent on the branch road.

The contemplated merging of the elevated lines of Chicago has been deferred, it is said, because of the recent decision of the courts against the traction company.

A report has it that the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company is about to begin erecting an extensive plant at Bloomfield, N. J., in close proximity to the P. & N. and Erie railroads. About \$1,000,000 is to be expended on the plant, which will give employment to 1,000 hands or more.

THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY
REDUCED RECEIPTS SHOW SHORTENED SUPPLY.

Although the weather has been fairly reasonable, offerings of loose leaf tobacco at Danville were comparatively small. This is considered as indicating that the holdings by farmers have not been underestimated, though it may be that farm work has kept some away. There is practically no change in the quantity of the offerings, the medium grades predominating, they have done heretofore. Prices are strong and the market is very active. All classes of buyers are watching the sales closely. Trading in round lots is active and there is a good demand for all grades.

At Petersburg receipts of loose tobacco at the warehouse were somewhat smaller than for previous weeks, but prices were well maintained on all grades except the long shipping leaf. The average price for all grades sold has been good; prices ranged from 80 to 84 per 100 lbs. The crop of tobacco sold was smoked. It is estimated fully 50 per cent of the crop in counties around Petersburg has been sold.

At South Boston farmers on the market were fairly heavy for the past two weeks, sales footing up a little over 500,000 pounds. The crop up to date averages being about 100 cents per pound. Sales to date aggregate a little over 12,000,000 pounds, and it is estimated that a little more than 85 per cent of the crop has been sold.

At Richmond receipts of sun-cured tobacco continue moderate and the market active. Receipts of bright tobacco are light and the demand active. The market remains steady on dark fired and stemming goods and the quotations unchanged, with liberal receipts. The tobacco crop sold in the past several weeks continues to be in damaged condition, and such goods necessarily sell at a low price.

At Durham, N. C., breaks of leaf tobacco have been light for several weeks for various reasons, chief of which is that only a small quantity remains in the hands of the farmers unsold, and preparation for the coming crop requires every available laborer on the farm, the colored farmhands having been sent to the plantations in large numbers for the coal fields and railroad construction camps.

Modern Battleships.
From Cassell's Magazine.
The widespread tendency to build larger battleships is not a thing of this year or last year, but has been under way at least since 1890. On July 1, 1890, there were built or building for the several naval powers seventy-seven warships of 12,000 tons displacement or over, of which forty-six belonged to the British navy. In 1900 the number had increased to ninety-four, and in 1905 it was 153. In the latter year seventy of these vessels were in the British fleet.

The number of these leviathans owned by the United States increased from fourteen in 1890 to twenty-eight in 1905. During the same six years the average displacement of all warships, excluding torpedo boats and submarines, increased from 3,883 to 5,739 tons. In the matter of speed the average, again excluding torpedo craft, has increased from 16.52 knots in 1890 to 18.7 knots in 1905. The fastest average speed of the warships of any of the great naval powers in the world is that of Great Britain's fleet. The United States average is 18.64 knots. The fastest navy is that of Chile, with eleven ships, mostly fast cruisers. The mean speed of her vessels is 20.71 knots.

Limit to Great Fortunes.
From The St. Louis Republic.
The man ambitious of leaving a great fortune to his children or of founding some great institution labors early and late to build new roads, found new industries, seek out and develop new markets, to cheapen the cost of living to his fellow-men and add to the comfort of his living. He thinks he is working for himself, in truth, he is working for the multitude.

Why undecide him by setting a limit to his possible accumulations of wealth? Say that he shall leave only so much, and he will quit working for the multitude just at the time, perhaps, when his deluded work would contribute most liberally to the general good.

And when the successful seeker after

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wealth has piled his dollars into heaps of millions and tens and hundreds of millions he dies, and his children and his grand children and his great-grandchildren spend or lose it. It passes back into the general fund after having served as an incentive for the general betterment of mankind, of which he is only an atom.

Nerves and Fallacies.
From The Lady's Pictorial.
It is the society woman who is generally described as the victim of nerves, drink and drugs, rest cures being her portion; yet experience shows that she is in reality a much more placid person than the working woman, and statistics further show that madness is much more prevalent in rural districts, where life is made up of the trivial round.

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Nerves and Fallacies.
From The Lady's Pictorial.
It is the society woman who is generally described as the victim of nerves, drink and drugs, rest cures being her portion; yet experience shows that she is in reality a much more placid person than the working woman, and statistics further show that madness is much more prevalent in rural districts, where life is made up of the trivial round.

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